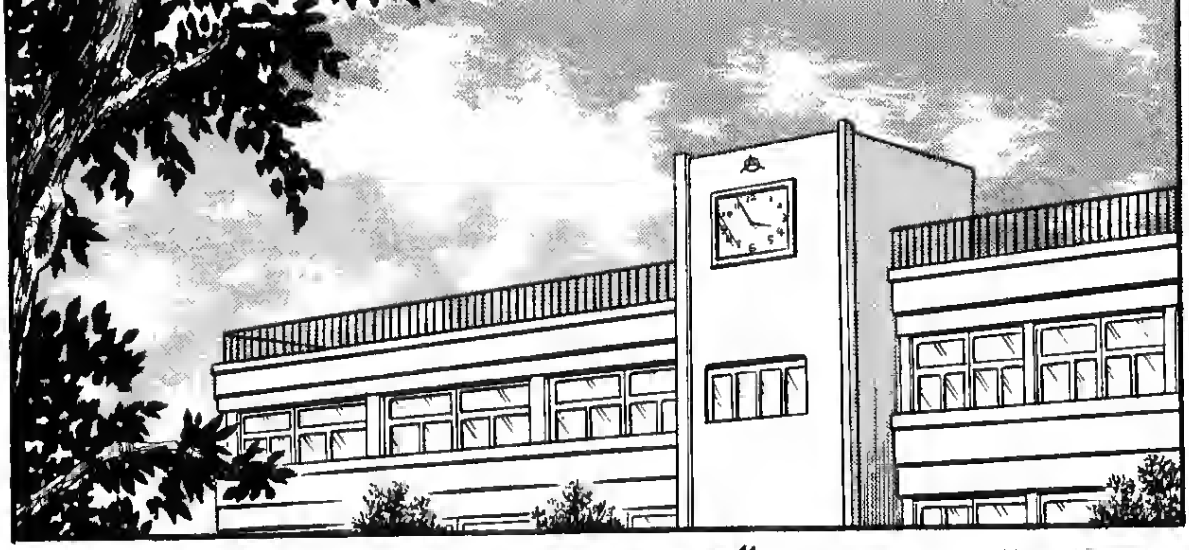
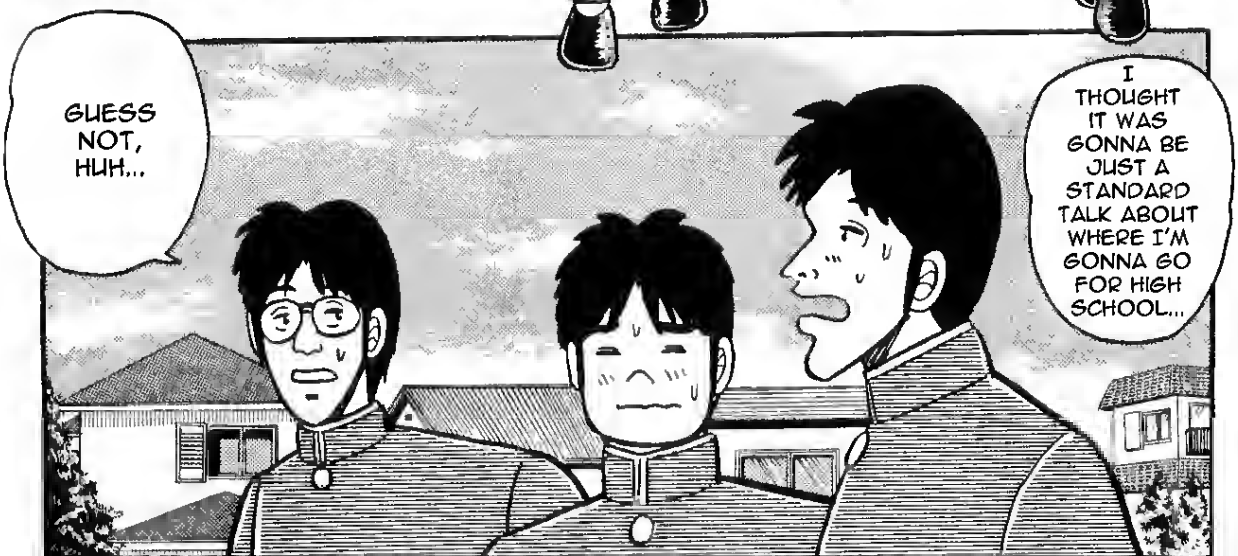
Atsuize Tenma!
第6話 CHAPTER 6
天馬日本一へ
TENMA: JAPAN'S BEST?!



SO HOW'D IT GO...?
NOT GOOD AT ALL, MAN...
...
...

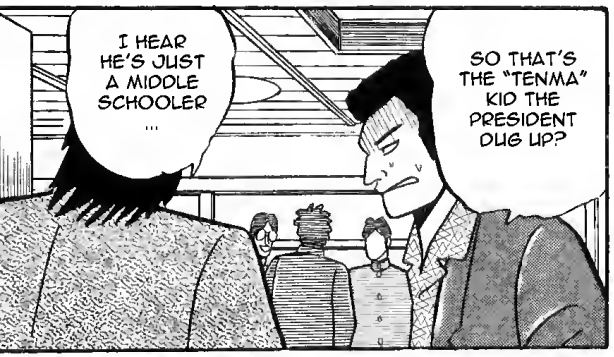

GUESS NOT, HUH...
I THOUGHT IT WAS GONNA BE JUST A STANDARD TALK ABOUT WHERE I'M GONNA GO FOR HIGH SCHOOL...

ALL I SAID WAS THAT I WANTED TO GO TO MITSUI HIGH, AND SHE JUST EXPLODED AT ME...!
PSHH- HAHA HAHA HA!!
HOW DARE YOU SAY SOME- THING SO FOOLISH ?!
MITSUI IS ONLY FOR THE ELITE, COLLEGE- BOUND STUDENTS !!
FOR A KID LIKE YOU, OGIKUSA HIGH SCHOOL AND OTOWA TRAIN- ING SCHOOL ARE YOUR ONLY OPTIONS!!
ANYWHERE ELSE IS OUT OF THE QUESTION!
SO, I GUESS I'M LIMITED DOWN TO THOSE 2 SCHOOLS ...
I WONDER WHY IT IS THAT I'M FORCED TO GO TO ONE OF THOSE TWO IF I WANT TO CONTINUE MY EDUCATION...
IT JUST... IT FEELS LIKE I'M BEING PUSHED DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF SOCIETY BY PEOPLE LIKE HER...
IT DOESN'T SEEM TO MATTER HOW MUCH I STRUGGLE AND PUSH AGAINST IT.
HECK, ALL OF US NEED TO BE PUT IN OUR PLACE ONE DAY OR ANOTHER...

...WELL...
I GUESS SOME OF US DO WIND UP BETTER OFF THAN OTHERS, BUT... STILL.
EVEN IF WE'RE GIVEN A THIRD SCHOOL TO CHOOSE FROM AND WIND UP GOING TO A GOOD COLLEGE...
...SEEMS LIKE IT ALL GOES TO THE SAME PLACE... WE'LL JUST BECOME MORE SALARY-MEN.
. . . .
. . . .
SO, HOW ABOUT YOU? WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO TO HIGH SCHOOL?
AHH, NOWHERE, REALLY... ANYWHERE'S FINE.
I'LL JUST MESS AROUND, WHEREVER I END UP GOING...
STUDYING ISN'T A BIG THING FOR ME.
SO, UH, DID YOU HEAR WHAT TENMA SAID DURING HIS POST-GRAD MEETING...?
HUH?!
TENMA WENT TO HIS?!

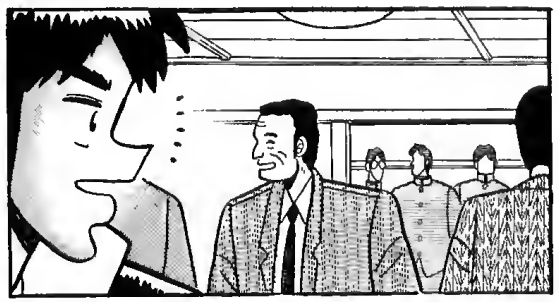
SEE, STARTING SOON, I'M GONNA BE MAKING MY MONEY PLAYING MAHJONG ...!
IT'S REALLY FINE IF I DON'T STUDY, MISS!
BE SERIOUS WITH ME, YOUNG MAN!!
I AM BEING SERIOUS! REALLY!
どぅ...
AND THAT PENNY-PINCHING OLD HAG WAS ALL "THAT'S NO WAY TO MAKE A LIVING!!!" MANN, SHE WAS SO MAD!
I MEAN, TENMA'S THERE, AND HE'S A MIDDLE SCHOOLER, TOO! WE SHOULD BE FINE!!
WELL, SURE, BUT DON'TCHA WANNA GO, ANYWAY?!
YEAH ...
...THE MEETING PLACE IS, LIKE, THIS BIG, FANCY HOTEL, RIGHT...?
WELL, YEAH, BUT ...
FOR KIDS LIKE US, THAT'S A BIT TOO MUCH...
HEY, YEAH! THE ONE TO DECIDE THE BEST IN JAPAN!
HEY, COME TO THINK OF IT, TODAY'S TENMA'S BIG MAHJONG MATCH, ISN'T IT?
そうそう...
LET'S GO SEE IT!!

MAHJONG CUP - DECIDING MATCH
LOCATION: OKUYAMA HOTEL


I HEAR HE'S JUST A MIDDLE SCHOOLER ...
SO THAT'S THE "TENMA" KID THE PRESIDENT DUG UP?

WE'D BECOME THE LAUGHING-STOCKS OF THE MAHJONG LEAGUE...
YEAH, THAT'D BE BAD, TAKEDA-SAN...!!
IF WE CAN'T SNATCH THE CUP AWAY FROM THAT BRAT, OF ALL PEOPLE, THEN ...!

TENMA'S OPPONENTS
.....

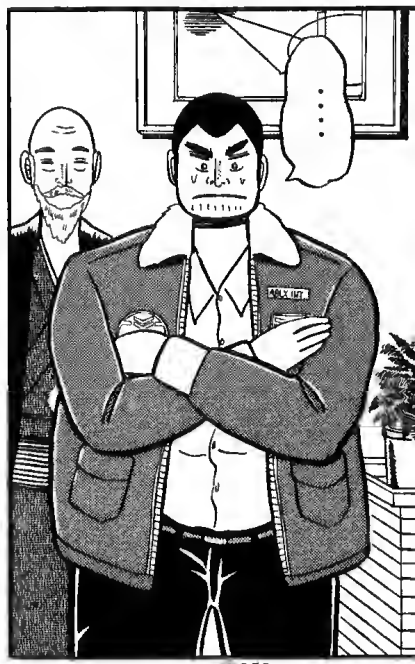

...

...

NO MATTER WHAT, WE'VE GOT TO PREVENT THAT FROM HAPPENING!!
ABLX.INT
MAH-JONG CUP FINAL MATCH
THE MATCH WILL LAST FOR ONE SESSION.

110枚

EAST FIRST ROUND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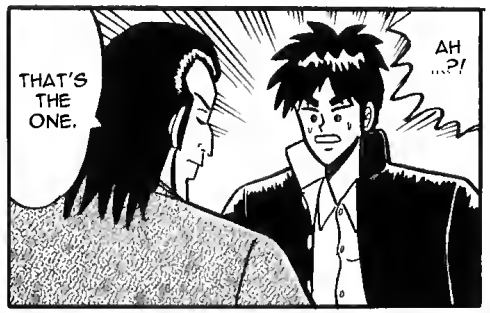
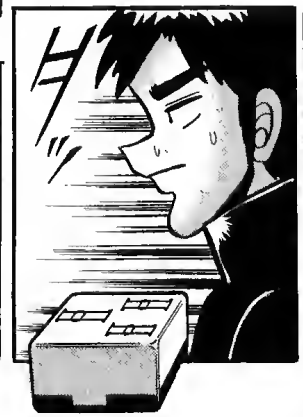
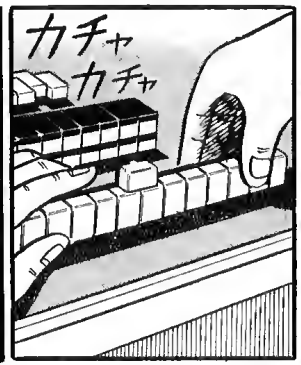
IT HAD ONLY BEEN 7 TURNS IN.
……


THAT'S THE ONE.
AH ...?!

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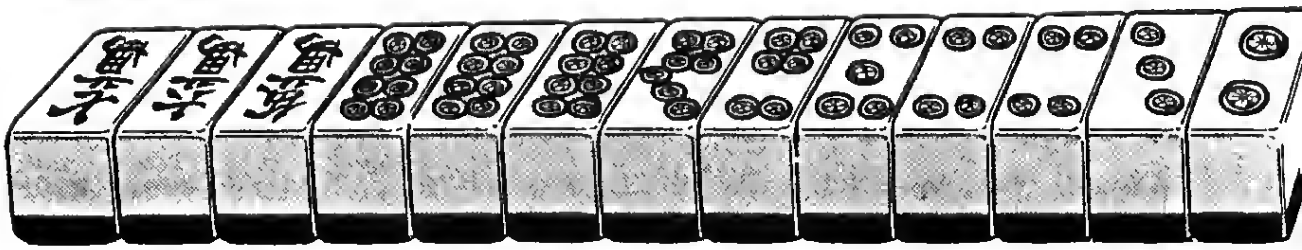
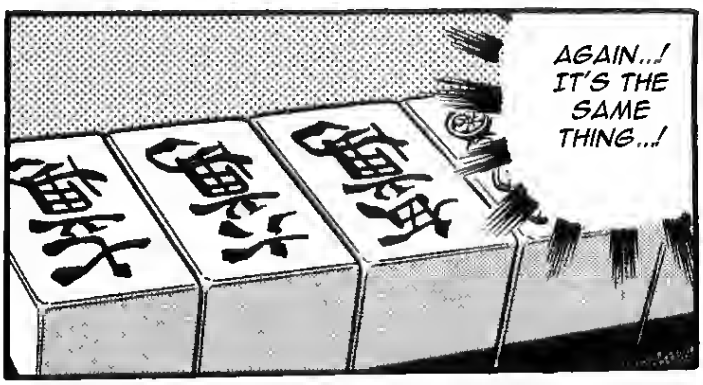
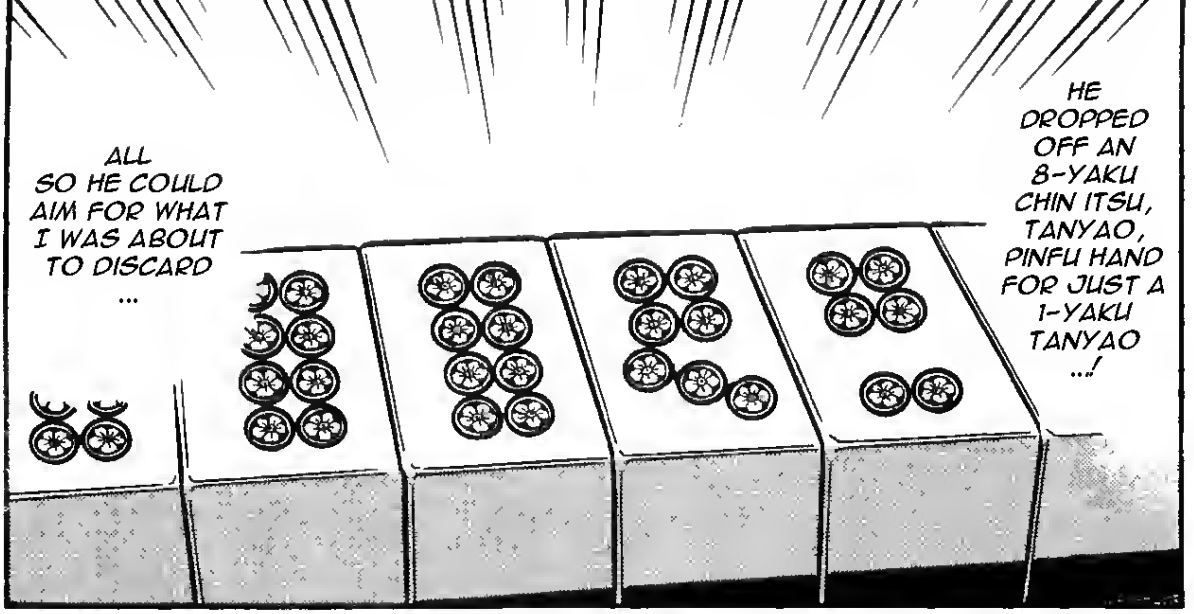
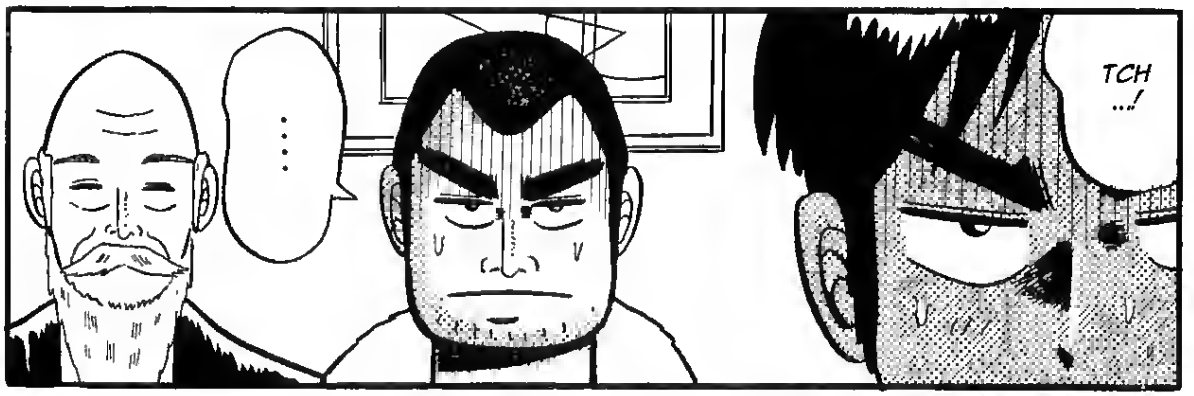
THAT'S IT!
110
ON THE 6TH TURN ...
AND THEN, IN THE EAST 2ND ROUND ...




AGAIN..! IT'S THE SAME THING..!

AND HERE, HE COULD EASILY HAVE GONE FOR CHIN ITSU, BUT HE WENT FOR THE QUICK, CHEAP PINFU HAND INSTEAD ...!
THEY'VE PERFECTLY AIMED THEIR WAITS FOR WHAT I PLAY!!

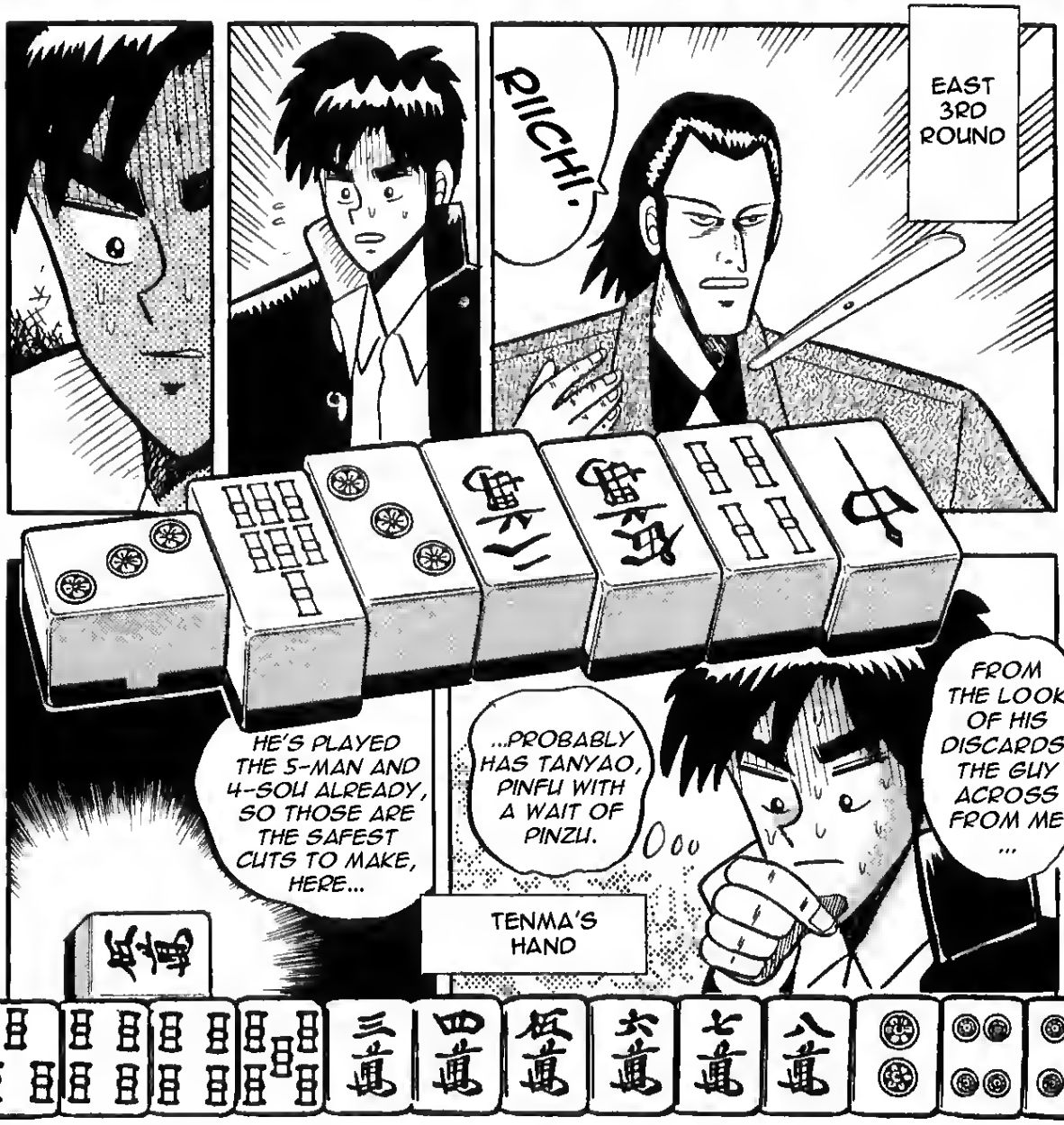

ALL SO HE COULD AIM FOR WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO DISCARD ...
HE DROPPED OFF AN 8-YAKU CHIN ITSU, TANYAO, PINFU HAND FOR JUST A 1-YAKU TANYAO ...!

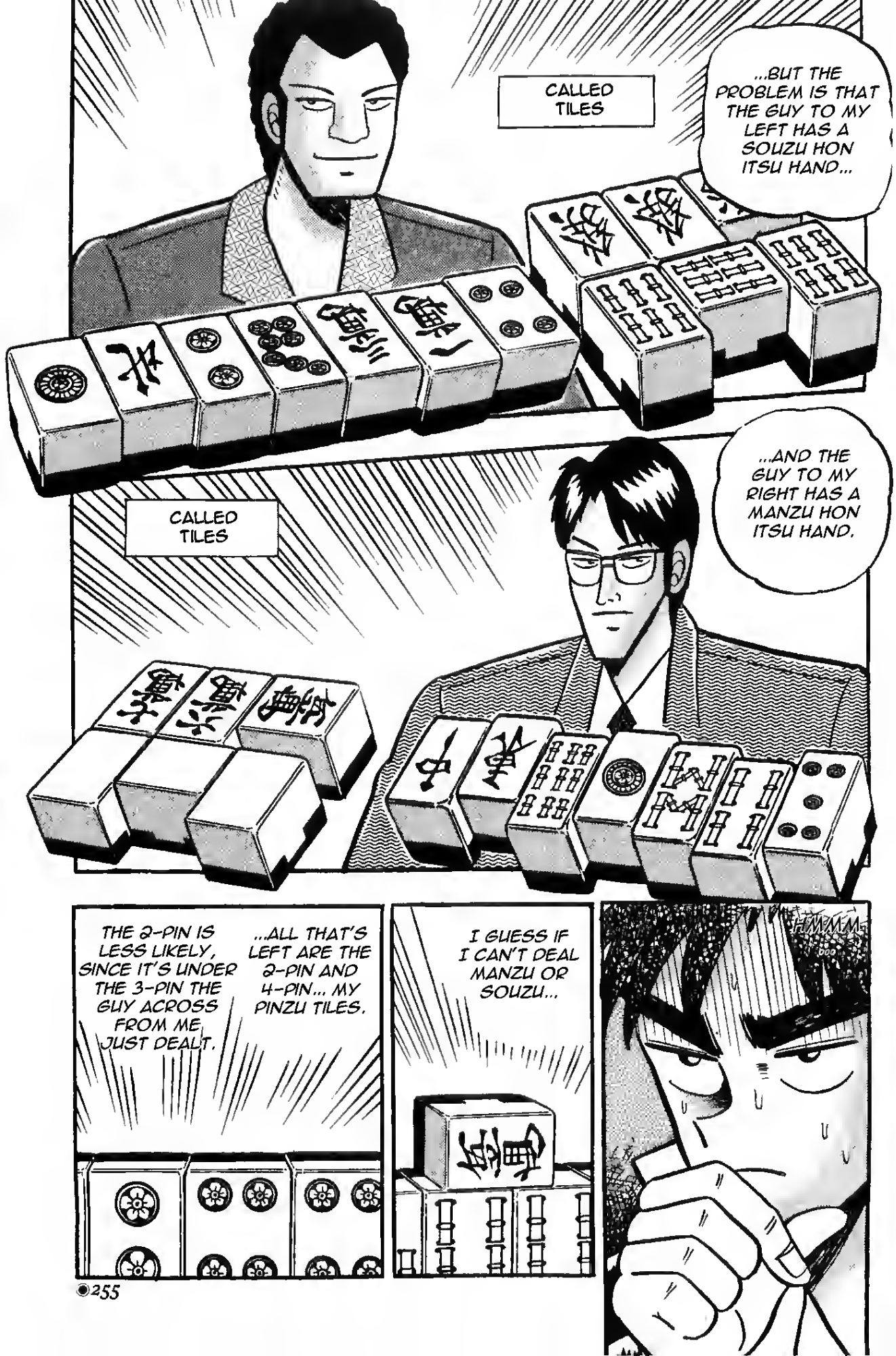

...
TCH ...!

...SO IN ORDER TO SAVE 'EMSELVES FROM HUMILIATION, THEY'RE TRYIN' T' TAKE OUT THE MIDDLE SCHOOLER AT THE TABLE AS FAST AS THEY CAN.
THESE GUYS ARE PROS WHO MAKE THEIR LIVING CHEWIN' OUT OTHER PROS...

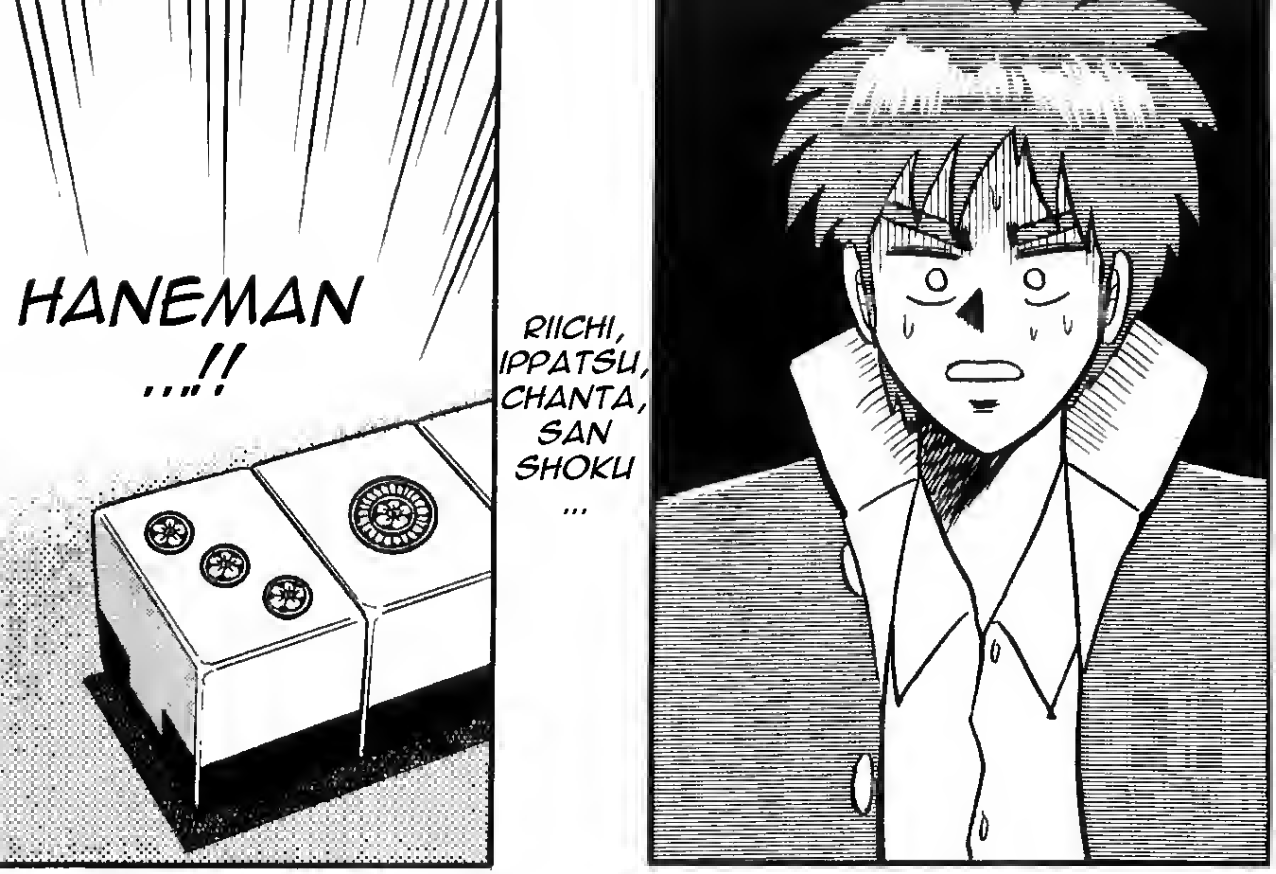
IT AIN'T TOO HARD T' FIGURE THESE GUYS OUT ...

...BUT THEY'VE ALL AGREED T' GET TENMA-KUN OUTTA THE PICTURE, FIRST!
THEY'RE PLANNIN' TO COM-PETE WITH EACH OTHER AT SOME POINT...


EAST 3RD ROUND
PIICHI.
FROM THE LOOK OF HIS DISCARDS, THE GUY ACROSS FROM ME ...
...PROBABLY HAS TANYAO, PINFU WITH A WAIT OF PINZU.
HE'S PLAYED THE 5-MAN AND 4-SOU ALREADY, SO THOSE ARE THE SAFEST CUTS TO MAKE, HERE...
TENMA'S HAND


CALLED TILES
...BUT THE PROBLEM IS THAT THE GUY TO MY LEFT HAS A SOUZU HON ITSU HAND...
CALLED TILES
...AND THE GUY TO MY RIGHT HAS A MANZU HON ITSU HAND.
THE 2-PIN IS LESS LIKELY, SINCE IT'S UNDER THE 3-PIN THE GUY ACROSS FROM ME JUST DEALT.
...ALL THAT'S LEFT ARE THE 2-PIN AND 4-PIN... MY PINZU TILES.
I GUESS IF I CAN'T DEAL MANZU OR SOUZU...
HMMM

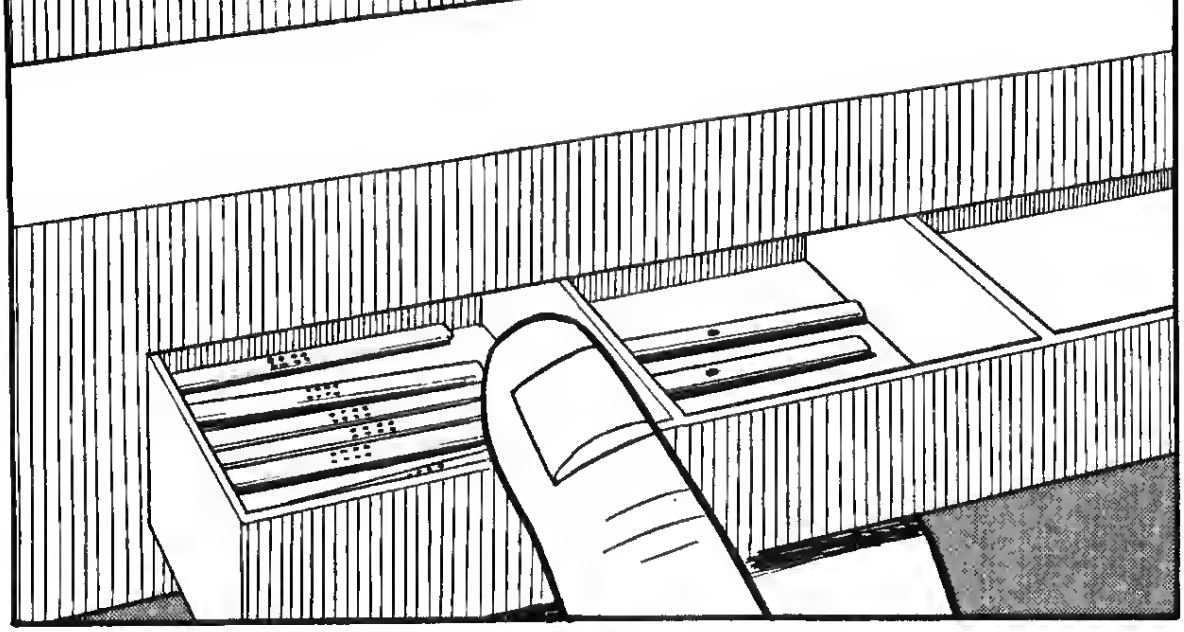
HERE GOES!
SORRY TO BREAK IT TO YOU, TENMA-KUN ...
BUT THAT'S WHAT I NEED!

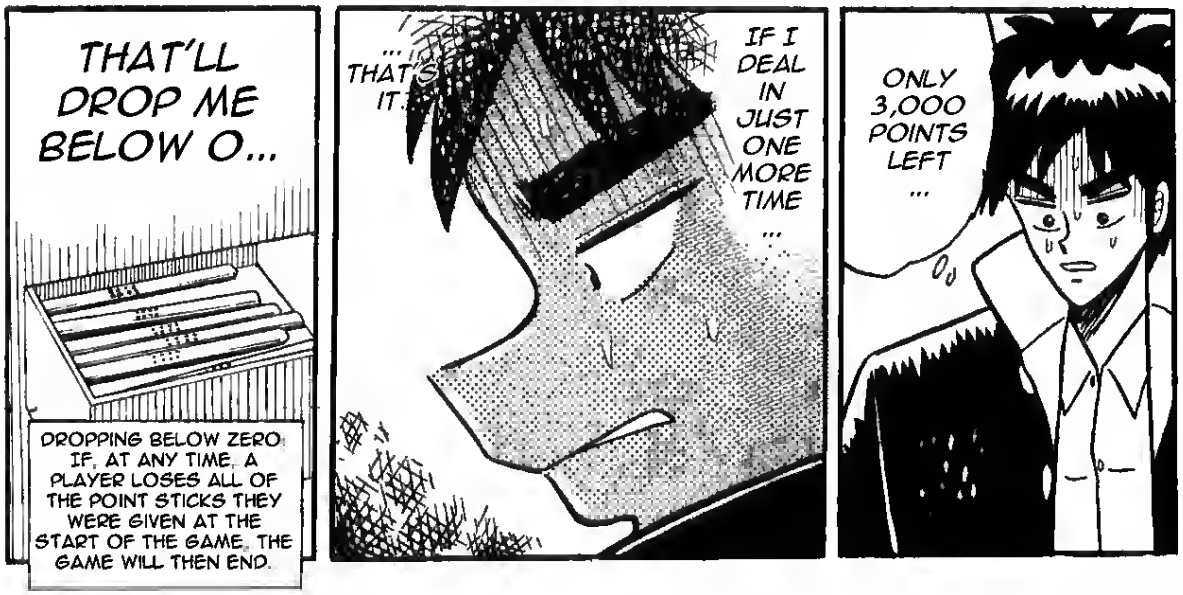

HANEMAN ...!!
RIICHI, IPPATSU, CHANTA, SAN SHOKU ...

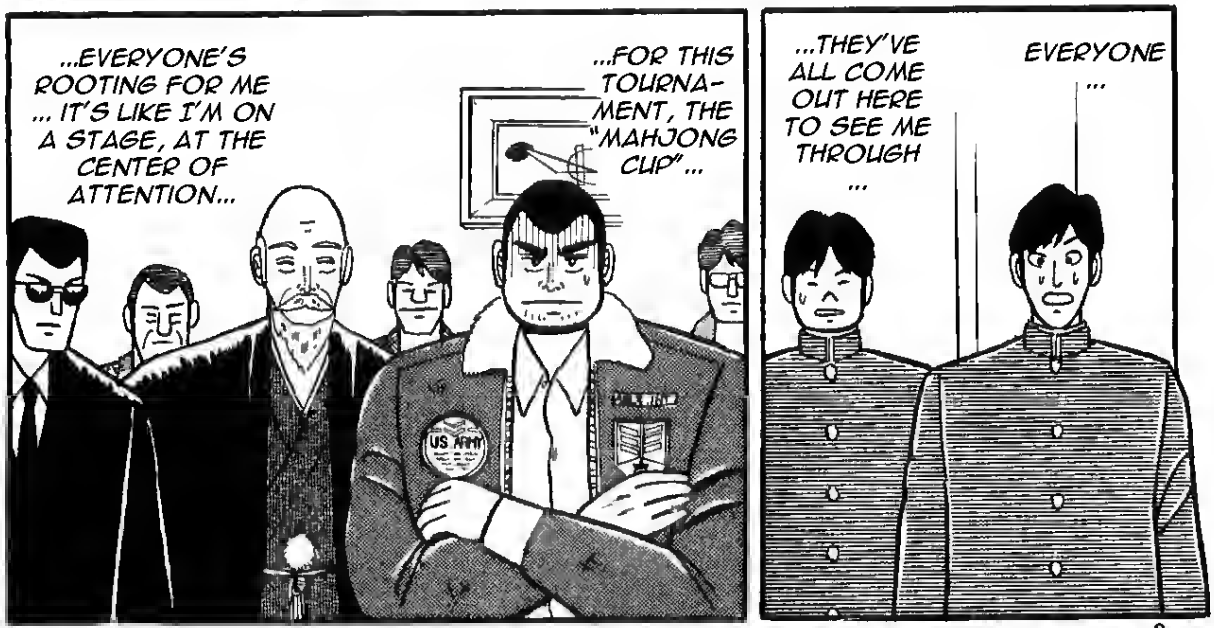
THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT THEY'RE ALL AIMING FOR ME, NOW ...!!
NO MATTER WHAT I'D PLAYED RIGHT THERE, SOMEONE WOULD'VE WON FROM IT...!!

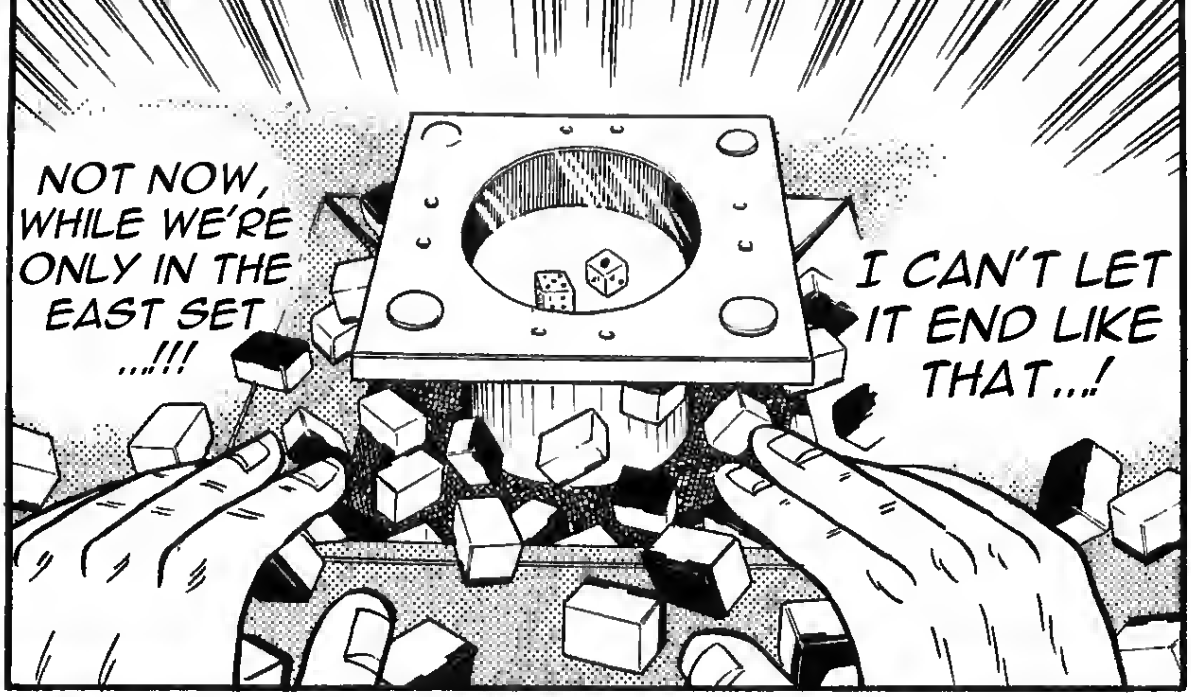
IT'S NO USE ...!

AND NOW ... THEY'VE GOT ME TRAPPED IN A NET ...!!




THAT'LL DROP ME BELOW O...
DROPPING BELOW ZERO: IF, AT ANY TIME, A PLAYER LOSES ALL OF THE POINT STICKS THEY WERE GIVEN AT THE START OF THE GAME, THE GAME WILL THEN END.
... THAT'S IT.
IF I DEAL IN JUST ONE MORE TIME ...
ONLY 3,000 POINTS LEFT ...


...EVERYONE'S ROOTING FOR ME ... IT'S LIKE I'M ON A STAGE, AT THE CENTER OF ATTENTION...
...FOR THIS TOURNA-MENT, THE "MAHJONG CUP"...
US ARMY
...THEY'VE ALL COME OUT HERE TO SEE ME THROUGH ...
EVERYONE ...


NOT NOW, WHILE WE'RE ONLY IN THE EAST SET ...!!!
I CAN'T LET IT END LIKE THAT...!

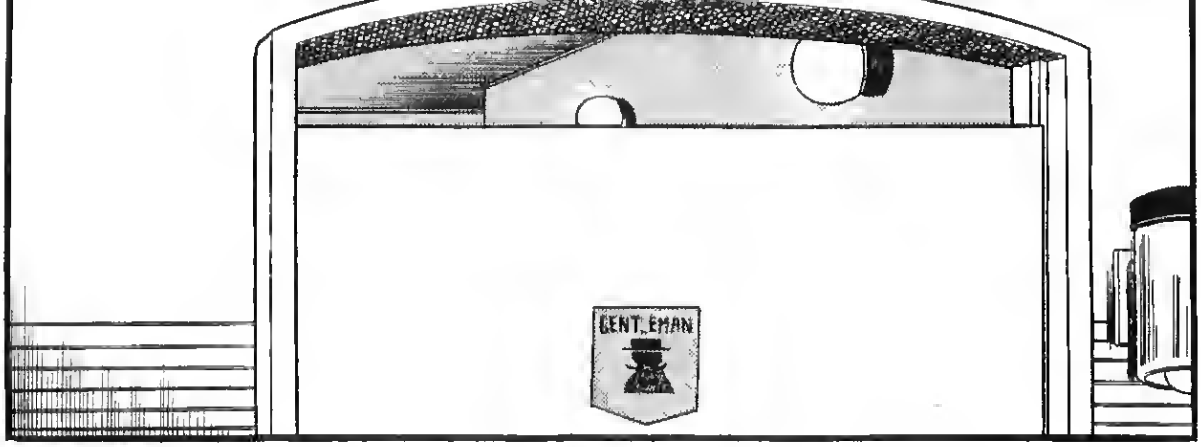
JUST FOCUS ... DON'T DEAL IN!

...

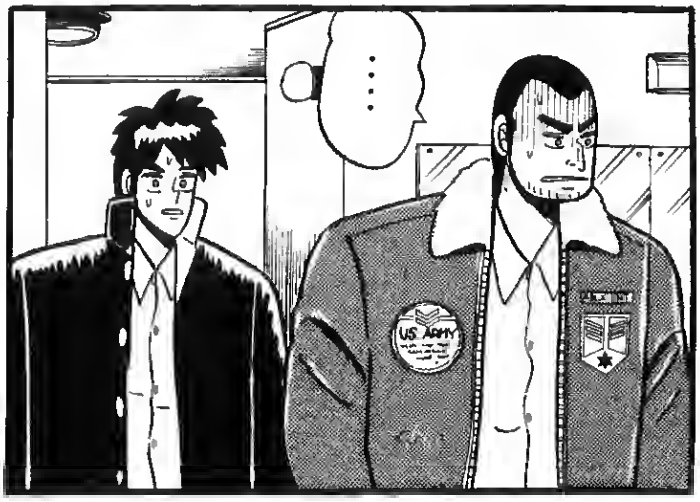
IF NOTHING ELSE, I NEED TO AVOID HAVING THAT DISGRACE HAPPEN TO ME...!!

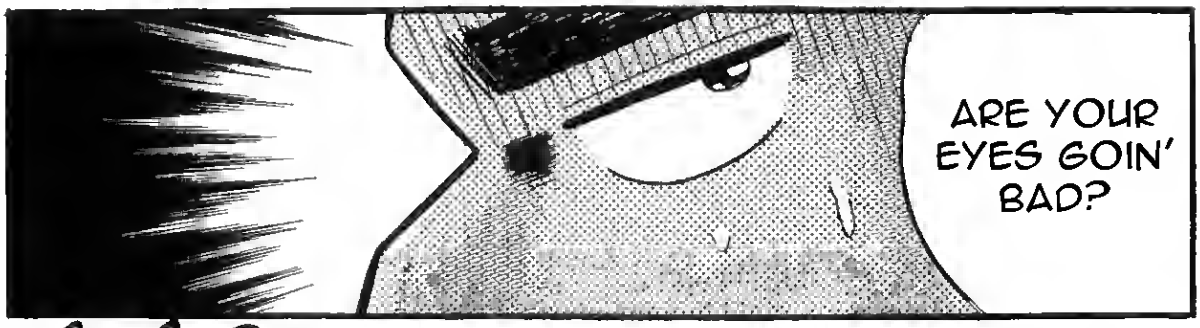
EAST 4TH ROUND

SOUTH 1ST ROUND
DON'T DEAL IN...!
SOUTH 2ND ROUND
DON'T DEAL IN...!
SOUTH 3RD ROUND
.....
TENMA-KUN, CAN I GET A WORD WITH YOU?
IT'S FINE, DON'T WORRY!
WE'RE JUST USING OUR FIVE-MINUTE BREAK!


GENT, EMAN

TEN-
MA-
KUN
...
WHAT'S
THE
MATTER,
SATSUMA
...?


...
US ARMY


ARE YOUR
EYES GOIN'
BAD?

HOF

HUH
...?

WHA ...?
ABLX INT

ONCE YOU DROPPED DOWN TO 3000, YOUR CUTS WERE A FRIGGIN' MESS!!
YOU WERE FOCUSIN' JUST ON NOT DEALIN' IN, WEREN'T YA?!

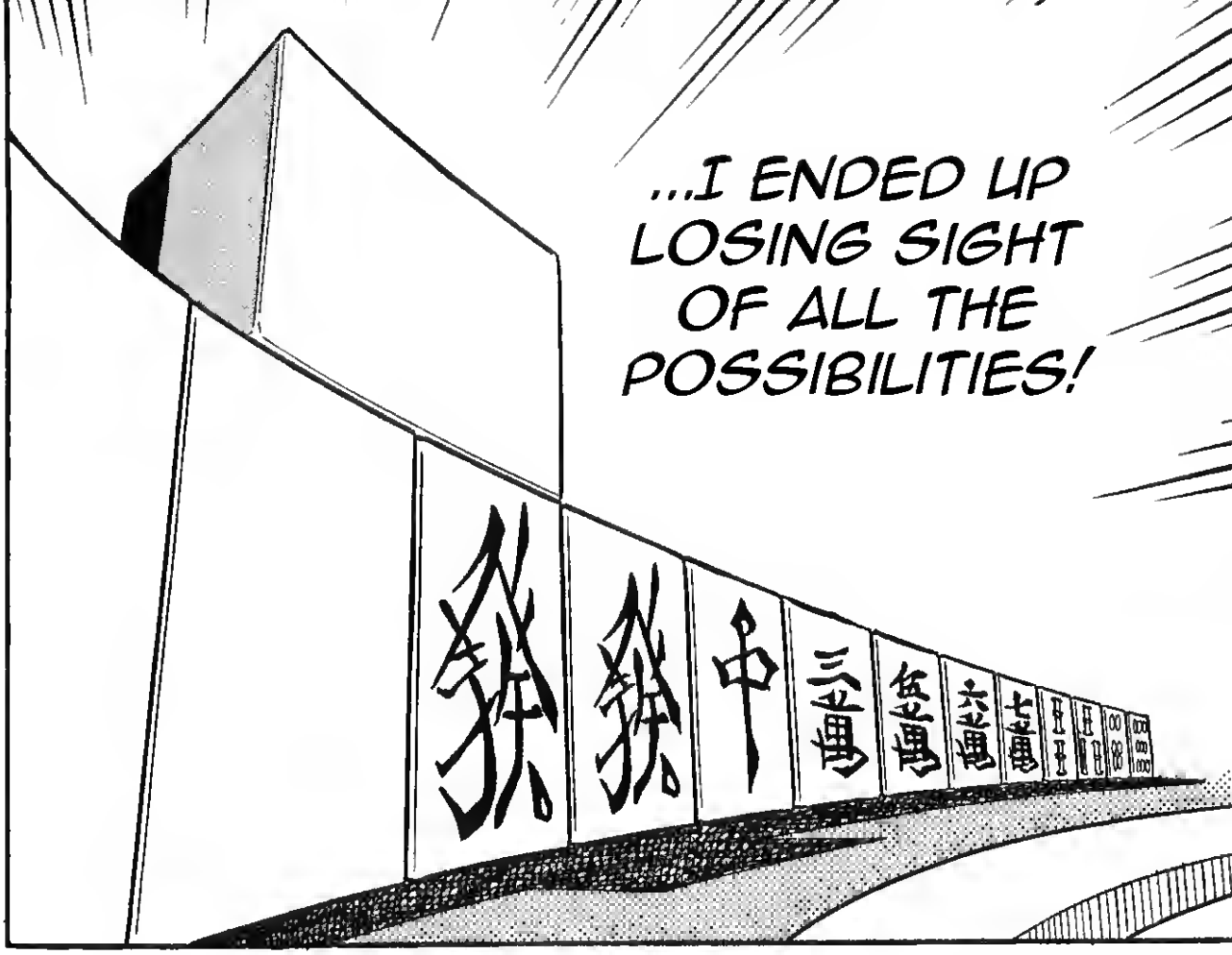
TENMA-KUN ...
YOUR EYES, I SAID! START USIN' YOUR DAMN EYES!!

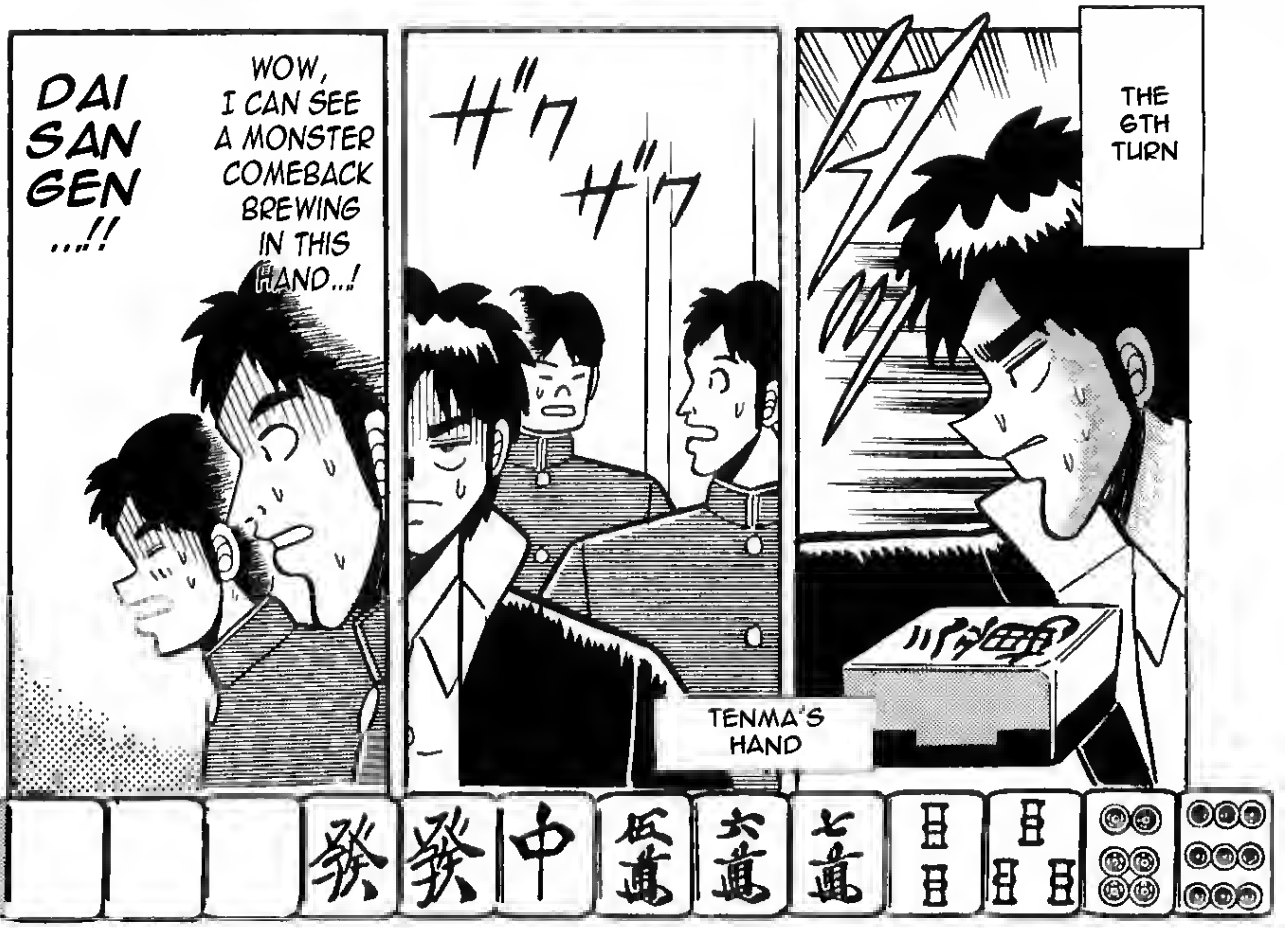
...BUT YOU CAN'T PLAY IT SAFE NO MORE!!

YOU'RE THINKIN' ABOUT PROTECTIN' THEM 3000 POINTS OF YOURS...
HERE AND NOW, TENMA-KUN, ALL YA CAN DO IS RACE FORWARD!!
...ABOUT HOW YOU'RE TRAPPED WITH ONLY 3000 POINTS LEFT...

TENMA-KUN, YOU GOTTA SHOW 'EM WHAT A GREAT PLAYER YOU ARE!!
YOU'RE GIVIN' 'EM JUST WHAT THEY WANT BY BEIN' SO SHY AN' CAREFUL!!
THE FINAL ROUND
THAT'S RIGHT ...
SATSUMA IS EXACTLY RIGHT.
WHAT WAS I DOING, BEFORE?!

TENMA'S FINAL STARTING HAND
IN THE END, THE ONLY THING THAT GOT ME WORRIED ...
I WAS JUST SCARED OF HAVING MY POINTS RUN OUT IN THE EAST SET ...
...AND TRYING TO AVOID LOOKING BAD IN FRONT OF MY FRIENDS!
...WAS HAVING MY POINTS RUN OUT BEFORE THE GAME WAS OVER!
BUT IN DOING THAT, I LOST SIGHT OF SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT!
WINNING!!
OF ALL THE ROTTEN TIMES ...
I WAS THINKING OF HOLDING ON TO THESE 3,000 POINTS AS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE WORLD, BUT...


...I ENDED UP LOSING SIGHT OF ALL THE POSSIBILITIES!


THE 6TH TURN
ザワ ザワ
WOW, I CAN SEE A MONSTER COMEBACK BREWING IN THIS HAND..!
DAI SAN GEN ...!!
TENMA'S HAND

THE 9TH TURN
TENMA'S LEFT: 1ST PLACE 34,000 POINTS
TENMA'S RIGHT: 3RD PLACE 31,000 POINTS
TENMA: 4TH PLACE 3,000 POINTS

IF I CAN WIN WITH THIS HAND, IT'LL PUT ME BACK ON TOP.
ALL RIGHT ...

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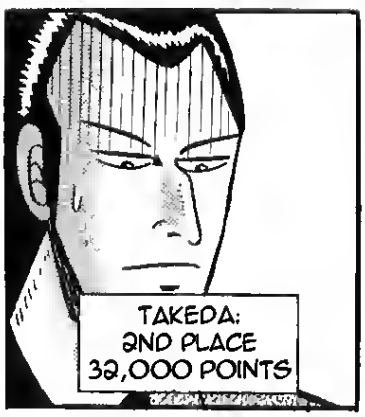
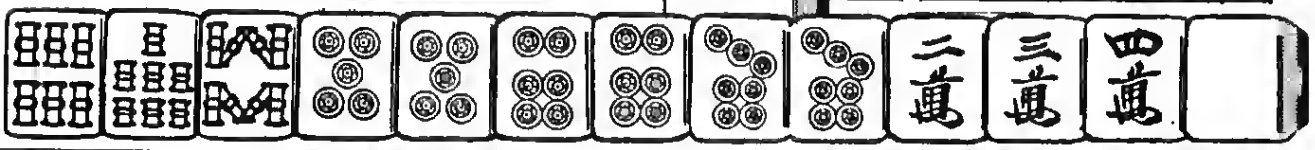

TAKEDA: 2ND PLACE 32,000 POINTS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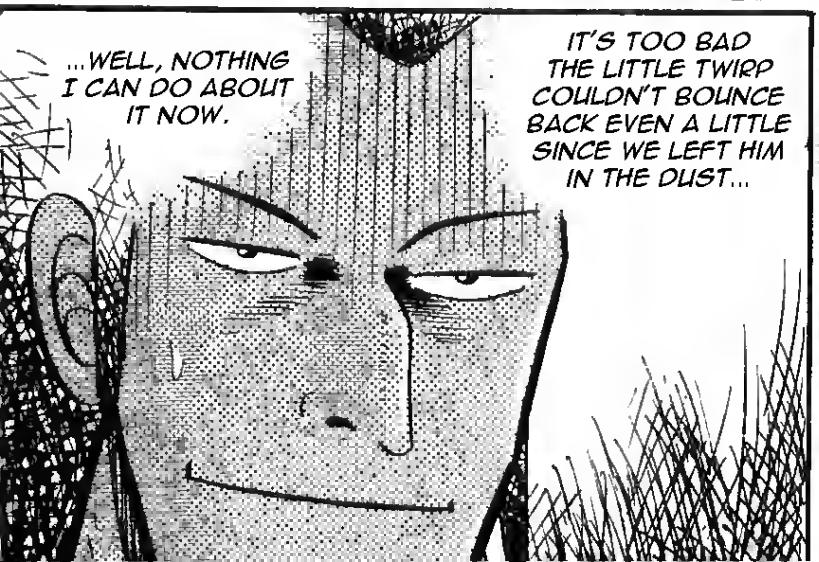

...WELL, NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW.
IT'S TOO BAD THE LITTLE TWIRP COULDN'T BOUNCE BACK EVEN A LITTLE SINCE WE LEFT HIM IN THE DUST...

ナテッ!

KAN!
HN ...?

AH ...!
HE COULD-N'T BE....?
14TH TURN
KAN!

...BUT IF HE HAD A DAI SAN GEN, IT WOULD BE RIDICULOUS TO SHOW 2/3 OF THE CRITICAL HONOR TILES!

THAT'S WHY HE CAN'T HAVE A CONCEALED SET OF THE CHUN, AS WELL!

TO DO THOSE KANS, HE MUST HAVE HAD A CLOSED SET OF BOTH THE HAKU AND HATSU BEFORE, AND THEN MADE TWO OPEN KANS WITH THEM.

...THIS CHUN WILL PASS.

A DAI SAN GEN RIGHT UP AT THE END, IS IT?

HAKU AND HATSU KANS ...

HMMMM ...

THIS CHUN ...

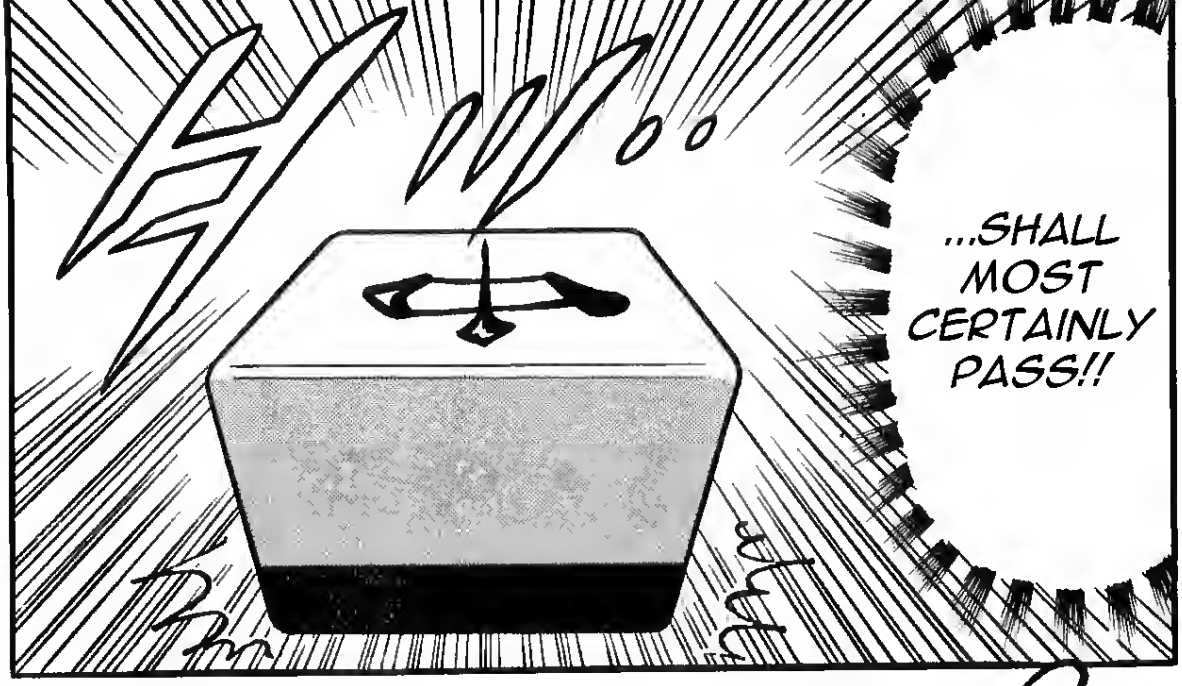
HE'LL SEE THAT HE STUCK HIS NECK OUT WAY TOO FAR WITH HIS DAI SAN GEN BLUFF!

WHEN HE DOESN'T CALL ON THIS, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP HIS FACADE, ANY LONGER.

IT WOULD NORMALLY BE UNTHINKABLE TO PLAY IT NOW, BUT...

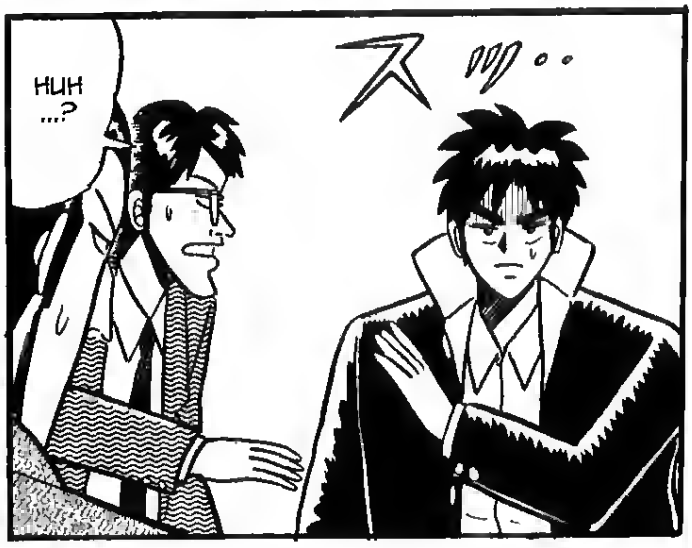
THIS REPULSIVE CHUN I'VE JUST DRAWN ...

TAKEDA'S HAND


...SHALL MOST CERTAINLY PASS!!

IF HE DIDN'T KNOW FOR SURE THAT IT WOULD PASS, HE WOULD NEVER PLAY THAT CHUN!
AS EXPEC-TED FROM TAKEDA ...

U.S.ARMY


HUH ...?

.....

?
WHAT IS IT ...?
I'LL KAN THAT TOO!!
WHA-?!?!

……
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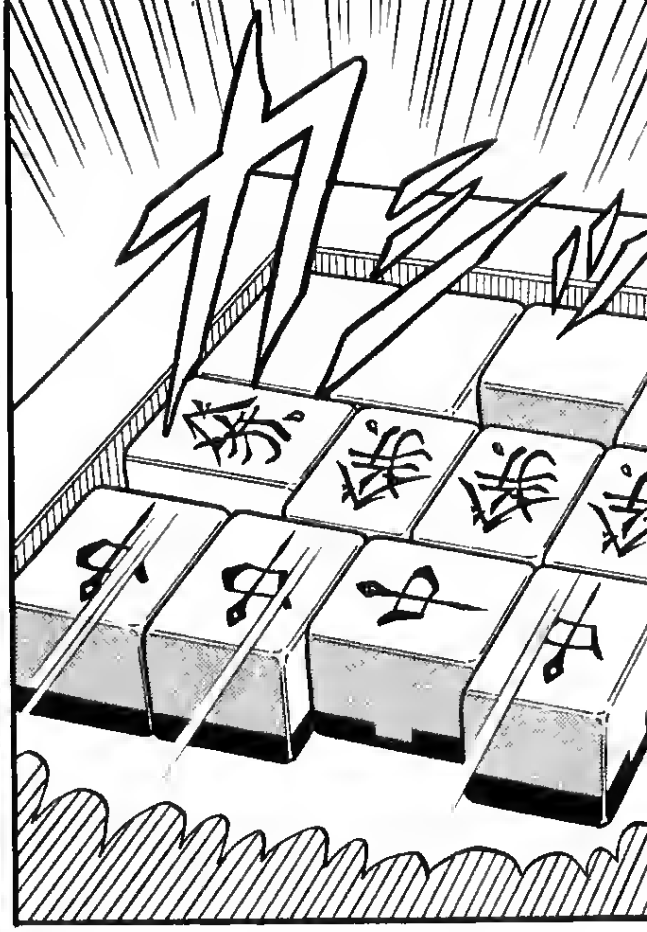
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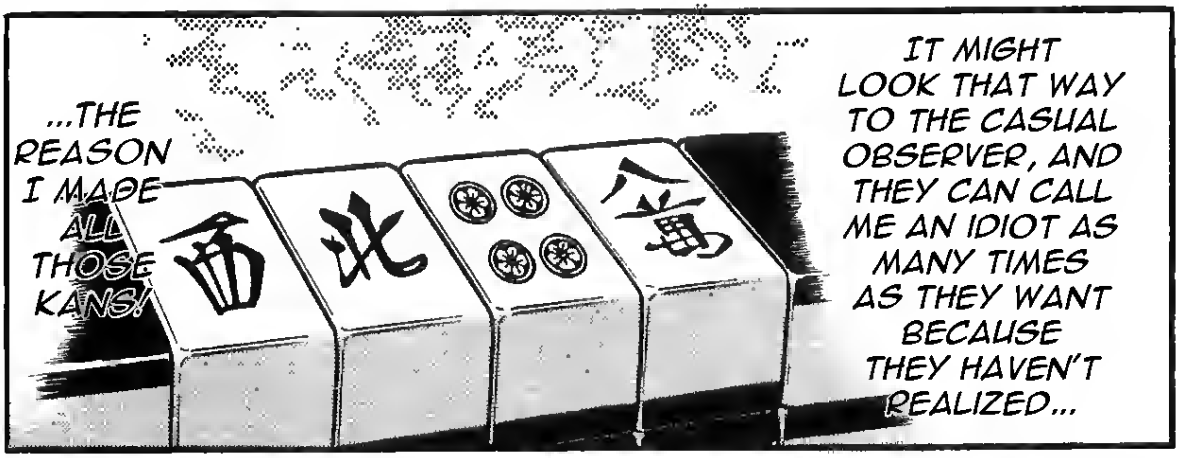
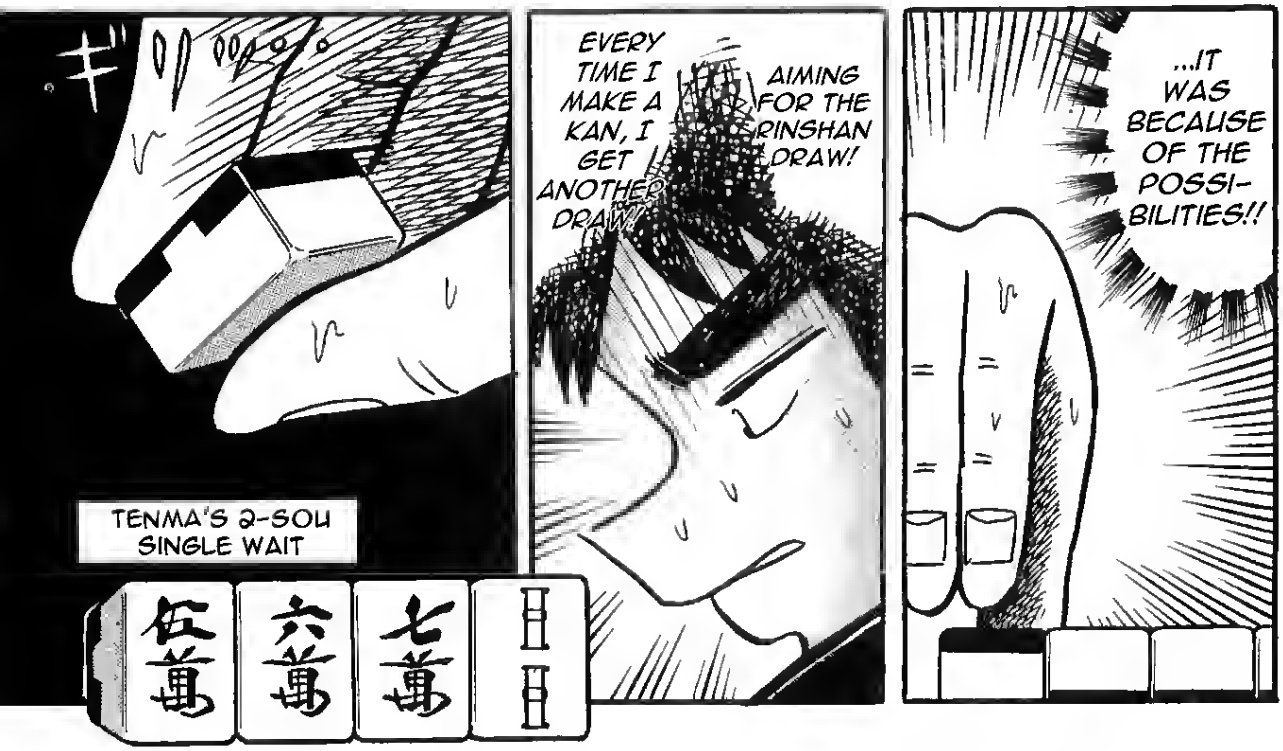
NOW THAT HE'S CALLED ALL THREE, IT'S AN EXPOSED DAI SAN GEN...!
WOW, HE'S DONE IT, NOW...
A KAN ON THE CHUN ...?!

LOOKS LIKE HE'S ALL TALK, AFTER ALL.
PHEH, FIGURES... A NOVICE.

NOW EVERYONE CAN JUST PLAY SAFE TILE AFTER SAFE TILE TO DODGE IT...
YOU NEVER WANT TO EXPOSE YOUR HAND IF YOU CAN AVOID IT!

I'M WAY ABOVE WHAT THEY'D CALL A NOVICE!
BAH, LET 'EM TALK!
TENMA-KUN...
TENMA ...

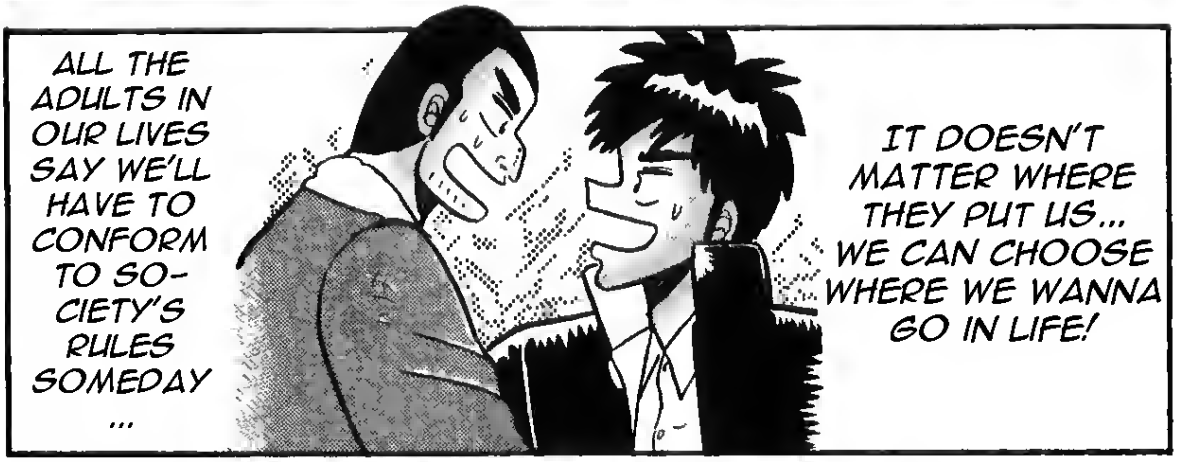

...THE REASON I MADE ALL THOSE KANS!
IT MIGHT LOOK THAT WAY TO THE CASUAL OBSERVER, AND THEY CAN CALL ME AN IDIOT AS MANY TIMES AS THEY WANT BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T REALIZED...


TENMA'S 2-SOU SINGLE WAIT
EVERY TIME I MAKE A KAN, I GET ANOTHER DRAW!
AIMING FOR THE RINSHAN DRAW!
...IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE POSSI-BILITIES!!

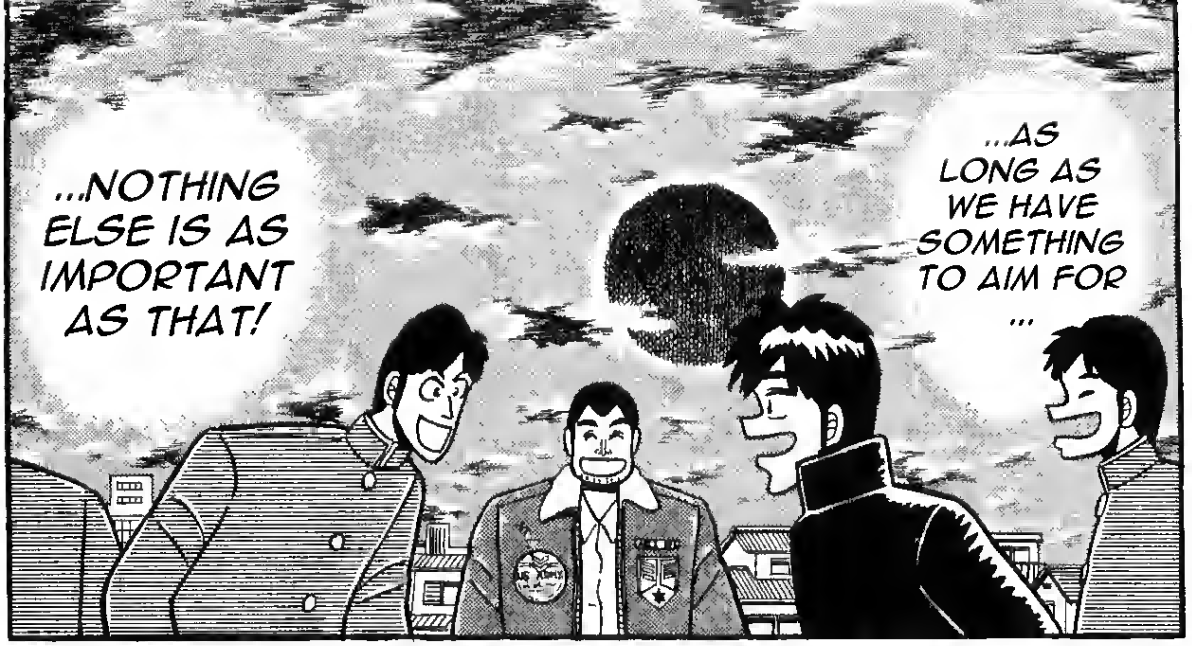
I'LL CHASE AFTER IT TO THE END!!
...IF THERE'S A POSSIBIL-ITY FOR SUCCESS ...
TEN-MAA-AA!!

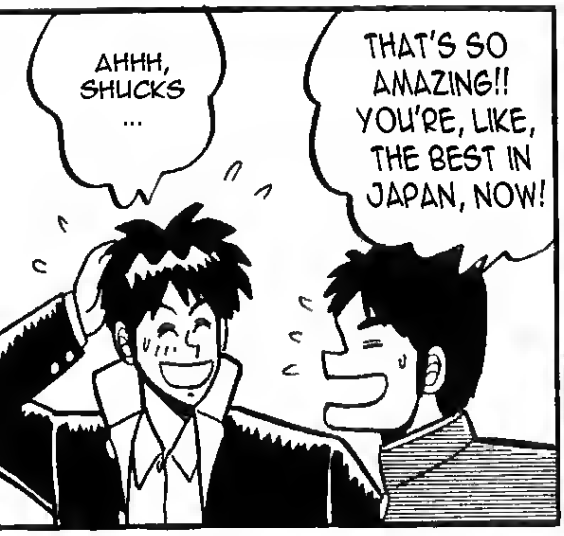
TSUMO!!
DAI SAN GEN!! A COME-BACK WIN!!!
WHADDAYA SAY TO THAT?

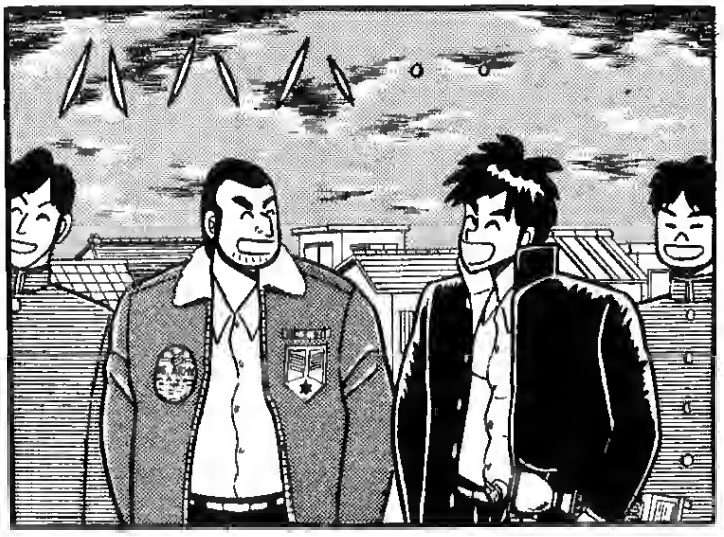
YOU DID IT, TENMA AAAA !!!
THAT'S RIGHT!
わあっ


ALL THE ADULTS IN OUR LIVES SAY WE'LL HAVE TO CONFORM TO SOCIETY'S RULES SOMEDAY ...
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE THEY PUT US... WE CAN CHOOSE WHERE WE WANNA GO IN LIFE!

...SEARCH FOR THE POSSIBILITIES THAT LIFE HAS TO OFFER!
...AND IF WE DO ...
BUT WHEN THAT TIME COMES, WE CAN AVOID THEM BUNDLING US UP INTO CUBICLES ...


...NOTHING ELSE IS AS IMPORTANT AS THAT!
...AS LONG AS WE HAVE SOMETHING TO AIM FOR ...


AHHH, SHUCKS ...
THAT'S SO AMAZING!! YOU'RE, LIKE, THE BEST IN JAPAN, NOW!

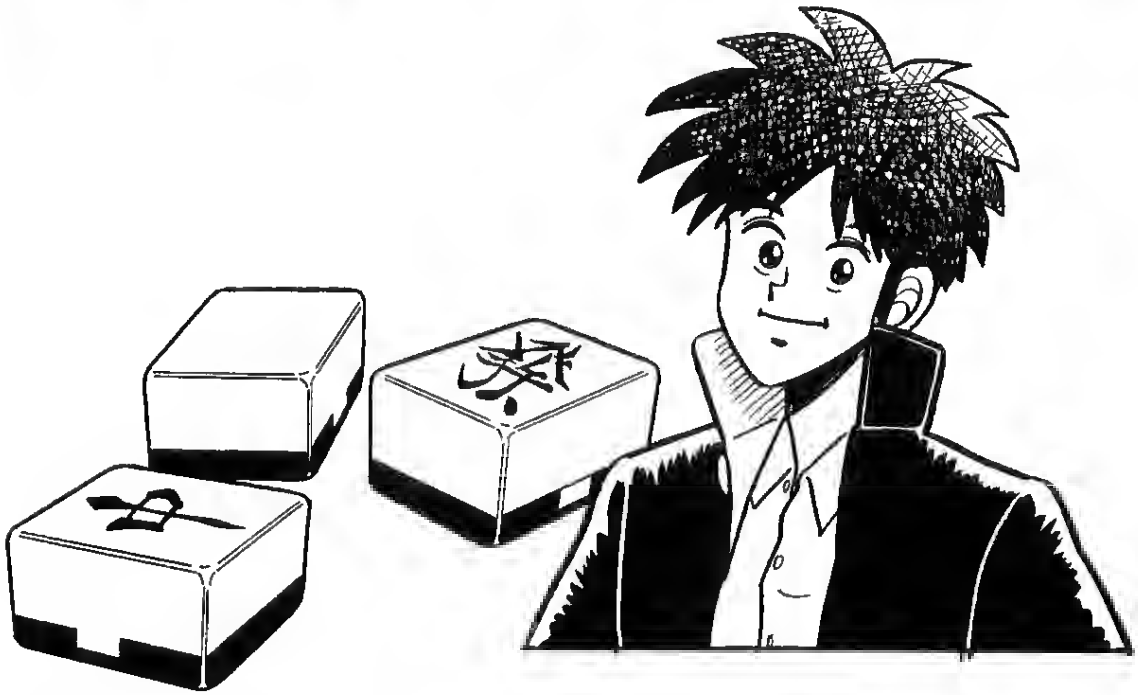


IF IT'S MAHJONG YOU WANT, I'M ALWAYS GAME!!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, AT ALL!

HEY, C'MON, GUYS!!
YOU'RE TALKING LIKE HONGOU!

YEAH, HE'S WAY HIGHER IN RANK THAN WE ARE, NOW ...
HEY, WAIT... BUT NOW, HE CAN'T PLAY MAHJONG WITH US ANYMORE, CAN HE...?
.....

第6話 天馬日本一へ☆完
CHAPTER 6 - TENMA: JAPAN'S BEST - FIN



ATSUIZE TENMA!
MANGA WRITTEN BY FUKUMOTO NOBUYUKI
SCANLATED BY FKMTKRAZY
TRANSLATED AND TYPESET BY SONICKRAZY
CLEANED BY CRUMP BIGGUMS
CREDITS PAGE FANART FOUND BY ANONYMOUS
THANKS FOR READING!! IF YOU WANT TO HELP BRING MORE FUKUMOTO GOODNESS TO THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION, COME TO FKMTKRAZY.BLOGSPOT.COM AND LEAVE A MESSAGE! WE NEED A TRANSLATOR FOR AKAGI, AND MORE EDITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

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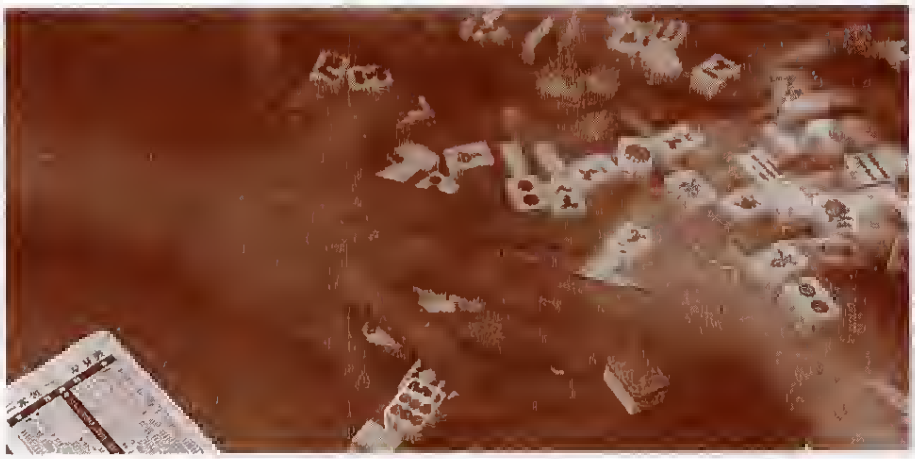

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